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Town of Elma Community

UPDATE DATE

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Devoted Entirely to the Town of Elma and its Residents

Special Budget Edition

ELMA WILL CONTINUE 2011 WITH NO TOWN OF ELMA DEBT.

Transmittal letter to the Town Board, Citizens and Taxpayers of the Town of Elma regarding the Town's 2011 Budget.

-Supervisor Michael P. Nolan.

The Town of Elma, New York's proposed budget for the year 2011 is hereby submitted. As required by Town Law, this version of the budget has been prepared by me as Town Supervisor and is known as the "Tentative Budget" for 2011. It is respectfully submitted to the Town Board, citizens and Town taxpayers for review, consideration, resident input and potential adjustment prior to adoption by the Town Board.

The annual budget process is an important undertaking. We, as management of the Town, must take many factors into effect, including:

- The services which are vital for the health and safety of our residents.
- Service that provide "quality of life" to our residents.
- The cost of these services and the ability of taxpayers to pay for these services.
- The present economy and extensive taxing by New York State Government.

I'm happy to present a budget that

provides services for health, safety and quality of life, while also controlling cost.

As with each year the Town faces many challenges - we have always acted responsibly and looked for the long - term benefit of our community. We consider the 2011 budget not to be a one year spending plan, but a long-term blue print for the Town's future. Some highlights include.

- In 2011 the Town will continue to focus attention on our infrastructure

and will dedicate additional funding to road projects.

- The Town is scheduling no Major Capital Improvement projects due to the economic downturn our country is now facing. That may change if stimulus monies are dedicated from the Federal Government towards projects located in Elma. It is critical that all Government entities in New York State not overspend and keep taxes as low as possible.

A complete detail budget and summary of estimated tax rates can be found in the Tentative Budget; however, a summary of the Town's General, Highway and Water Funds (the Town's largest funds) is as follows:

<u>2011 Tentative Budget</u>			<u>2010 Adopted Budget</u>		
Fund	Amount	Tax Rate	Amount	Tax Rate	Tax Rate
	to be raised by Taxation		to be raised by Taxation		
General Fund	No Property Tax		No Property Tax		
Highway Fund	240,843	4.5900	239,288	4.64000	
Water Fund	49,885	0.8900	60,353	1.0900	

As displayed by the table there is once again **no real property tax within the General Fund** which is an accomplishment that we ask you to compare to other Towns throughout New York State. In addition, taxes in both the Highway and Water Funds are decreasing during 2011. They continue to be at a lower rate than in 2004.

- Highway Tax Rate has decreased 8% since 2004
- Water Tax rate has decreased 45% since 2004
- Lighting Tax rate has decreased 39% since 2004

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These decreases in a lower tax rate since 2004 are a result of:

- Careful control and monitoring of Town expenses. Town management acts in a conservative manner and we do not have any excess employees or employee cost. During 2011, all Town Employees will be contributing towards the cost of health insurance.

- Maximizing and protecting our outside revenue sources.

- Continual monitoring of our financial controls, policies and procedures. We have and will continue to act with the best interest of our taxpayers in mind.

- During 2010 the Town consolidated Assessing services with the Town of West Seneca. This saved over \$38,000.00 for Elma taxpayers.

- The Town workforce will be reduced by 2 employees with early retirement; these positions will not be filled. We have estimated a savings of over \$100,000 for these 2 positions combined.

- Downsizing in the Town Supervisor's office from 2 employees to 1. The Confidential Secretary position was eliminated in 2010 saving over \$17,000.00.

In summary, I believe this budget proposal provides for continued high quality services to our residents at an extremely fair price. It also provides for the future by funding for additional road improvements. All of which comes at a cost that is less than the prior year.

In closing, I wish to thank all the employees and department heads for their dedicated service to the Town, and the Town Board for their leadership and support. Additionally, thanks to the Elma residents who volunteer their time in many different ways to make Elma the great community that we call home.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael P. Nolan
Supervisor

FLU SHOT Clinic at Elma Senior Center

In cooperation with Independent Nursing Care the Elma Seniors have scheduled a flu shot clinic on Wednesday, October 13, 2010 between 10am-12pm.

The clinic is open to the residents of the Town of Elma.

The H1N1 flu strain is included in this year's seasonal flu shot. That is why it is important, more than ever, to get your flu shot this year. Independent Nursing Care reminds the residents that along with your shot it is important to practice these good health and hygiene principals, especially if you are in contact with people who may be contagious:

- Wash your hands frequently
- Cover your mouth & nose with tissue when you cough or sneeze
- Eat healthy and well balanced meals
- Exercise regularly

When at the clinic you will be asked to sign a consent form and present your insurance card.

Variety of Programs Offered by Tri-Towns Recreation

Throughout the year Tri-Town Recreation Programs are offered throughout the year to residents of Elma, Marilla and Wales.

The Latimer Tri-Town Recreation Ice Hockey Program still has openings. This program is designed to teach basic skating and hockey skills. The program is open to all youth in 1st -8th grade on Saturday mornings at Leisure Rinks. Visit [www. Latimerhockey.com](http://www.Latimerhockey.com) or contact Tom Thomas at 652-1287.

Ski Club has information and registration forms available at the Iroquois Middle and High Schools. The club travels to Kissing Bridge on Thursdays after school for 8 weeks.

Registration deadline is October 25th.

The Tri-Town Youth Bowling Program will offer an instructional and league bowling program on Saturdays at Victoria Lanes. Registration information will be available soon with registration taking place at the end of October. League bowling is for 4th - 12 graders for 17 weeks. The instructional program is for pre-k through 4th graders for 7 weeks. Two programs will be offered, one starting in November and one in January.

Tri Towns Recreation will be offering programs at the Iroquois Middle School on Saturdays during January and February.

The youth Recreation Program is

for youth in kindergarten through sixth grade who are interested in crafts, recreational games and swimming. Bus transportation will be available from the Wales and Marilla Primary Schools for the recreation program.

Family Swim is scheduled at the Iroquois Middle School pool on Saturdays from 12:30pm-2pm.

Children must be accompanied by a parent.

For additional information, contact Kerry at the Elma Town Hall, 652-3260 ext. 20

**Trick or Treat in Elma
October 31st**

Breaking Ground for Library Expansion



Trustees of the Elma Library Board and Town officials broke ground for the \$341,000 Elma Public Library addition and parking lot extension. The addition would add 900 square feet to the library. Pictured from left to right are: William J. Arlow, Landscape Architect; Karen Korpany, Library Director; Ellen McGreevy, Trustee; Arthur Aigner, President Library Board, Mike Nolan, Town of Elma Supervisor, Tracy Petrocy, Elma Town Councilman; Julie Aroume, Trustee, and Jay Ricketts, Trustee.

Kiwanis Club Installs New Officers



New officers of the Elma Kiwanis Club were installed at their September 28th meeting. Lt. Governor Francis Bink is pictured congratulating installed President Ron Redlinski. Officers include, (L-R) Roger Clark, Secretary; Bob McManigal, Treasurer, and Fran Williams, Vice President. Installed Board of Directors not pictured are Dona Reid, John Simme and Ronald Olson.

Elma's Town Clerk Reminds Residents

Town Clerk Pat King would like to remind the residents of Elma that a new program allowing residents to view current year and all prior years tax information up to ten years can be accessed on line at the Town's web site. You will be able to view Town/County, Refuse and School Tax. This includes all information necessary for the taxpayer to print a duplicate tax bill or receipt for both the current and prior years collection.

In order to access the data, log onto the Town of Elma's web site at www.elmanewyork.com. On the main page click departments on the bar at the top of the page. When the page opens click on Town Clerk & Tax Office.

On the Town Clerk's page click on real property tax search page and enter information requested and submit.

2010-2011 School Tax General Office Hours

Monday - Friday - 8 am - 4 pm

Special Hours

October 13 - 15th - 8 am - 6 pm

Columbus Day - October 11 Closed

Last day to pay tax without penalty is October 15, 2010.

Effective on January 1, 2011 the New York State Department of Markets will no longer issue or control dog licenses and renewals.

The Town of Elma will be sending your dog license renewals, and each dog will receive a new dog tag and license number. Your dog license will still expire the same month it currently does.

As of this writing the fees have not changed.

Pumpkin Festival Attracts 2,500

A threat of rain and cool temperatures didn't keep 2,500 children and parents from Elma's 7th annual Pumpkin Festival on Saturday, October 2nd.

Throughout the afternoon children enjoyed free hot dogs provided by the **Elma Fire Company** and free bags of popcorn provided by Al Bachowski of **Elma Hardware**, and hay rides. The festival committee provided various games and activities during the afternoon. **Berner Farms** delivered 650 pumpkins for the children to carve and take home. Alpacas were provided by Bradley & Jeanne Lang of **Thistle Creek Alpacas**.

Coloring contest winners are displayed at the Elma Town Hall.

The Pumpkin Festival Committee thanks the Town of Elma and all who volunteered in making this a success and an enjoyable day for the kids.



Our photographer found a live Pumpkin Person after visiting the face painting area. Sitting on Grandmother Sandy Corry's lap is Miranda Corry. Great Grandmother Gloria Clark looks on.



Pie contest chairperson JoAnn Schaefer (Left) is pictured with the winners of the pie contest: Kevin Neff, first place (Ginger Pear Pie) and Lori Hejna 2nd place (Concord Grape Pie). 3rd place winner was Diane Nuskowski with a French Apple Pie (not pictured).



Tom Reid and daughter Megan along with Michael Cirocco and family develop a unique way of unloading 650 pumpkins for the festival.



Elma's population increased by 27 as Pumpkin People invaded the community during the Pumpkin People contest. From 14 entries our winners are pictured above. Congratulations, Tammy Gordon of Stolle Rd. (top photo) first place; second place went to Sue and Greg Owczarek of Clinton Street. (Bottom Photo)



Not to be distracted by spectators, Nathan McDoldrick enjoys a game of pumpkin bowling at the festival.



South Towns Wood Carvers turned their attention to pumpkins this weekend as Wood-carver John Petkovsky demonstrates the art of carving to Sophia & Taras Nazarevych and Bohdan Melechuck.